

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 01613 161013Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W
-----087016 161118Z /13
R 160845Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7794
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LIMITED LFFICIAL USE NOUAKCHOTT 1613

END USER MAY DECONTROL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TKGS: BENC, XA, MR
SUBJECT: MAJOR EXPORT PROJECTS: ACTIVITIES OF U.S. CONSTRUCTION FIRMS

REF: (A) STATE 163280, (B) STATE A-1744

1. ONLY U.S. CONSTRUCTION FIRM CURREMPLY WORKING IN MAURITANIA IS J.F. PRITCHARD WHICH WTSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION OF MAURITANIA GOVERNMENT (RRM)SUGAR REFINERY FROM LANG ENGINEERING ON ORDERS OF INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS AND CONTROLS, PARENT COMPANY OF BOTH LANG ANDPRITCHARD. PRITCHARD OBTAINED MCHANICAL COMPLETION CERTIFICATE FOR REFINERY MARCH 26, AND HAS SIX MONTHS (UNTIL SEPTEMBBR 26) TO START UP REFINERY AND MEET CONTRACT SPECIFIED PERFORMANCE TEST. SINGLE OUTSTANDING UNIT PERFORMANCE TEST WAS COMPLEMAD JULY 12, WQTH RESULT THAT PRITCHARD STAFF (WHICH ALREADY HAS BEEN CUT TO ROUGHLY SIX AMERICANS AND DOZEN EXPATRIATES) WILL WIND UP AND DEPART PRIOR SEPTEMBER DEADLINE. PRITCHARD HAS OFFERED TO CONCLUDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT CONTRACT WITH GIRM SUGAR CORPORATION COVERKING KEY MAINTENANCE PERSONNZ AND PROCUREMENT SUPPORT (SPARE PARTS, PROCESS SUPPLIES), BUT GIRM HAS NOT YET RESPONDED.

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2. H.J. BRUSON, ENGINEERING SUBSIDIARY OF MORRISON-KNUDSEN, IS NOT RPT NOT CURRENTLY ACTIVE IN MAURITANIA. FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF STEEL COMPLEX AND COPPER SMELTER FOR SNIM WERE COMPLETED CIRCA 1975. FERGUSON SUBMITTED BID ON SNIM TENDER FOR DETAILED ENGINEERING OF GUELBS IRON ORE PROJECT IN SEPTEMBER 1976. SOFARAS WE AWARE, SNIM HAS MADE NO AWARD, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE IT IS STILL ATTEMPTING TO PUT TOGETHER FINANCING FOR

PROJECT.

3. ASPREVIOUSLY REPORTED, SAMIA IRON ORE PELLETTIZING PROJECT ON WHICH ALLIS-CHALMERS WAS BIDDING HAS BEEN DELAYED. AT ONE POINT PRITCHARD HOPED TNBE ABLE TO CAPITALIZE ON ITS HARD-EARNED KNOWLEDGE OF MAURITANIAN CONSTRUCTION SCENE VIA JOINT VENTURE WITH OR SUBCONTRACT TO ALLIS-CHALMERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PELLETTIZING PLANT, AND CARRIED OUT EXTENSIVE SITE SUVX ;UADHIBOU. BUT WE HAVE HEARD NOTING ON THAT SCORE FOR NEARLY FULL YEAR.

4. PULLMANKELLOGG HAS NOT BEEN ACTIVE IN MAURITANIA SINCE AT LEAST EARLY 1975 SO FAR AS PRESENT MISSION STAFF IS AWARE.

5. PLANET CORPORATION WHICHHXESIGNED NOUADHIBOU OIL REFINERY FOR SNIM AND SUPERIVSED FIRST STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION SEVERED ITS CONNECTION WITH SNIM IN MARCH OR APRIL 1977.

HANDYSIDE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 16-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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